

From: edwinmil
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/22/02 5:01pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

January 22, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I strongly feel that it will be in the public's best interest to stop federal action in the Microsoft case. This is why I am writing to urge your approval of the settlement that was reached in the case, and resist calls for those who want to keep the company tied up with litigation. I feel that the agreement is fair and reasonable, and has already proven extensive enough for nine states to approve.

The agreement will require Microsoft to change the way it licenses, develops, and markets its software. It has greed to stop retaliating against software and hardware developers that promote products that compete with Microsoft programs. Most importantly, these engineers and computer makers will be allowed to configure Windows so as to promote non-Microsoft programs that compete with the programs already included within Windows.

Although these changes seem to go against the principles of free enterprise and competition, Microsoft is willing to concede this in an effort to move the industry forward. Settling this case sooner, is truly better than later. The longer that the IT focuses on litigation, rather than innovation, the greater the risk that we may jeopardize our country's position as the world technology leader. I see no need for further federal action, and hope your office will see fit to allow the industry and the economy to move on.

Sincerely,



Edwin Miller
124 Burdick Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13208

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